

THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Issue 185 | January/February 2008

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

2008 Virginia Women in History Program Honors Eight Outstanding Women

A ground-breaking judge, a dynamic religious leader, and an award-winning writer are among eight Virginia women recognized by the Library of Virginia as part of its Virginia Women in History program. On March 27, 2008, the Library honored the eight outstanding women who are featured in the 2008 Virginia Women in History program at an awards ceremony at the Library of Virginia. The evening's program was hosted by Lisa Lafata Powell.

The women honored this year are:

Frances Culpeper Stephens Berkley Ludwell (baptized 1634–ca.1695), James City County, political leader

Edith Turner (Wané Roonseraw) (ca. 1754–1838), Southampton County, Nottoway (Cheroenhaka) chief

Lucy Goode Brooks (1818–1900), Richmond, civic leader

Providencia Velazquez Gonzalez (1917–), Dale City, community activist

Isabel Wood Rogers (1924–2007), Richmond, Presbyterian educator

Patricia Buckley Moss (1933–), Waynesboro, artist and philanthropist

Elizabeth Bermingham Lacy (1945–), Richmond, judge

Sharyn McCrumb (1948–), Roanoke County, writer

The eight also are featured on this year's handsome Virginia Women in History poster,

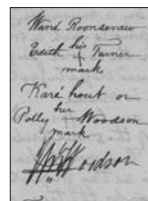
issued in celebration of Women's History Month, and in the Library's 2008 *Virginia Women in History* panel exhibition, on display in the lobby of the Library of Virginia from February 29 through March 31, 2008. Traveling versions of the exhibition are available for use by public schools and libraries and other cul-

tural institutions. If you wish to book the traveling exhibition, please contact Barbara Batson, exhibitions coordinator, at 804-692-3518 or barbara.batson@lva.virginia.gov.

The 2008 Virginia Women in History program highlights outstanding Virginia women who saw things differently from their contemporaries, developed new approaches to old problems, strove for excellence based on the courage of their convictions, and initiated changes in Virginia and America that continue to have an impact on our lives today.

"The women featured in the 2008 Virginia Women in History poster and traveling exhibition succeeded or excelled by facing challenging circumstances," explained Dr. Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia. "Their remarkable stories are inspiring, and teachers will be able to plan classroom activities for Women's History Month using the guide and materials specially developed for the program."

As part of its outreach program the Library has distributed this year's poster and



learning activities to public and private schools, public libraries, and cultural institutions and museums across Virginia. Additional educational materials, including handouts, worksheets, pictures, paintings, and primary sources from the Library of Virginia's collections, as well as a Spanish language translation of the poster text, is available on the Library's Web site at www.lva.virginia.gov/vw2008. The teaching activities are linked to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

The signature sponsor for the 2008 Virginia Women in History program is Dominion. Other sponsors of the program include the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Bon Secours. Media sponsors are the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and WTVR CBS 6. SunTrust is sponsor of the traveling exhibition. The program, now in its eighth year, began life as a project of the now-defunct Virginia Foundation for Women and was transferred to the Library in 2005.

Library Mourns the Passing of Dr. Francis M. Foster

The Library of Virginia has lost a dear friend and strong supporter with the death of Dr. Francis Merrill Foster Sr. on January 6, 2008. Dr. Foster, a prominent dentist and local historian, was acclaimed for his encyclopedic knowledge of the history of Richmond and African Americans. He served as the treasurer of the Virginia Center for the Book and as one of the chief forces behind the Virginia Authors Room at the Library of Virginia.

Dr. Foster earned his undergraduate degree from Virginia Union University in 1942 and earned his doctor of dental science degree from the Howard University School of Dentistry in 1946. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army Dental Corps and practiced dentistry in the Philippines, Guam, and China during his tour of duty. Returning to ...see **Foster**, pg. 2



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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Foster...

Richmond after his military service, he established a thriving dental practice in historic Jackson Ward. After his retirement in 1989 he served as a professor of general dentistry at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Foster dedicated his life and work to serving the Richmond community and the commonwealth of Virginia as a caring health practitioner and civic-minded community servant. Six governors turned to him to serve on boards and commissions. His love of books, history, and libraries and his devotion to his family were evident to all who knew him. In 2004 Dr. Foster received the first Semper Virginia Society Award from the Library of Virginia Foundation.

A long-term donor to and supporter of the Library, Foster served on the dedication committee for the opening of the Library of Virginia in 1997 and offered his guidance as a member of the organizing committee for *An Evening With William Styron*, the Library's 2000 tribute to the renowned author. An original member of the board of the Virginia Center for the Book and longtime treasurer of the group, Foster was a driving force behind the Virginia Authors Room, involving the community in the plans for this space dedicated to the state's literary heritage.

Among the other organizations, boards, or committees on which he served as a member or officer were the Historic Richmond Foundation, Richmond School Board, Virginia Board of Dentistry, Richmond Area Community Council, Virginia Health Regulatory Board, Richmond Public Library Board, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Maggie L. Walker Foundation, Astoria Beneficial Club, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and the Crusade for Voters.

During his lifetime Dr. Foster received numerous awards, commendations, and accolades, including the Distinguished Alumnus of a Historically Black College and University Award in 2001, the Urban League of Greater Richmond's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2003, and the Dominion Resources Strong Men and Women of Excellence Award in 2006.

Throughout his life, Dr. Foster attempted to live by three tenets he learned from his father: "It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice"; "There's not a right way to do a wrong thing"; and "Being a good neighbor in community service is a rent we pay for being here." Those who knew this man of dignity, warmth, compassion, and intellect would agree that he more than succeeded in living by those tenets.



Carmer Foster and her father, Dr. Francis Foster, at the 10th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards Celebration.

Picturing America Applications Due April 15, 2008

Applications are now being accepted for Picturing AmericaSM, a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association. Applications may be submitted online at <http://picturingamerica.ala.org> through April 15, 2008. If you have already applied for Picturing America, thank you!

In order to enhance the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture, Picturing America brings some of the nation's greatest works of art into school classrooms and public libraries. Successful applicants will receive a set of forty high-quality reproductions of American masterpieces, a teachers resource book, and additional educational resources available at <http://PicturingAmerica.neh.gov>.

Public, private, parochial, and charter schools and home school consortia (K-12), as well as public library systems and school districts, are invited to apply. Awards will be announced in May 2008 and distributed in September 2008 for display during the 2008-2009 school year and beyond.

For more information about Picturing America, including a list of the artwork featured, grant guidelines, and the online application, visit <http://picturingamerica.ala.org>.

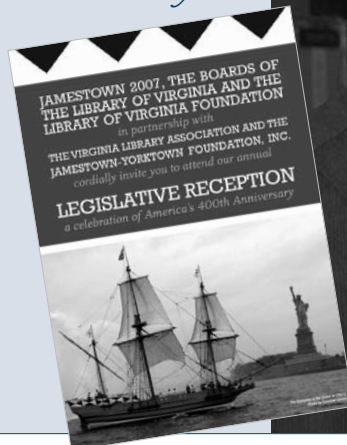
If you have questions, contact the ALA Public Programs Office at www.ala.org/public-programs, publicprograms@ala.org, or 800-545-2433, extension 5045.

LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION at the Library of Virginia

a celebration of America's 400th Anniversary
Thursday, January 17, 2008

right: event invitation

far right: Delegate Frank Hall and
Steve Adkins, chief, Chickahominy Tribe,
at the Library's legislative reception



Library Acquires Tactile Maps from Pioneer in Tactile Methods



Lauren Wanveer and a collection of her grandfather's maps

The Library of Virginia recently received a donation of tactile maps from the granddaughter of cartographer Joseph Wiedel, now Professor Emeritus at the University of Maryland. I am that granddaughter and once spent time on summer break as a teenager pressing some of these tactile maps at the university. I was happy to share what he has given me of his collection with the Library of Virginia. While I enjoy personally owning some of my grandfather's work, I wanted to make sure that what he had achieved would be preserved and enjoyed by others.

Wiedel pioneered the development of tactile mapping methods. The Library of Virginia now owns several of his tactile maps, including a map of the Washington Metro system, the Capitol Building, instructional maps of the solar system, and others. They incorporate braille lettering and raised symbols of landmarks to allow a visually impaired person to tour Washington, D.C., or study the planets in our solar system as anyone else would.

Wiedel received his bachelor's degree in 1958 and his master's degree in 1963 from the University of Maryland. Previously he had studied at the Columbia Institute of Technology where he received a certificate in 1949. He was a U.S. Navy Seabee working in topographical mapping and surveying during the Korean War. ...see **Tactile**, pg. 7

Recent Donation Highlights Matthew Fontaine Maury: "Pathfinder of the Seas"

"There are rivers in the sea
For thousands of miles they
move through their liquid
channels unmixed with the
confining waters. They are
the horizontal movements
called *currents*."

—M. F. Maury, *Physical Geography*

In October 1912 Matthew Fontaine Maury's daughter, Mary Werth (under the name Mrs. James R. Werth), donated various nautical charts by Maury and one by Charles Wilkes, which likely belonged to Maury, to the Library of Virginia. Ninety-five years later, in December 2007, Robert Ward, a collector from Georgia interested in navigation, donated charts, books, artifacts, and various other ephemera by or about Maury to the Library. The charts and other materials are an important addition to the Library's collection because Maury, a native Virginian, made significant contributions to international sea navigation and geography through his service in the U.S. Navy.

Maury was born in Spotsylvania County, Virginia, on January 14, 1806, and grew up on a farm in Williamson County, Tennessee. While still a boy, Maury fell 45 feet from a tree and severely injured his back, which kept him from working on the family farm. He returned to school when he was able to ride a horse six miles there and back. Later, he wanted to attend West Point, but his parents refused, fearing they would lose

the younger Maury at sea as they had lost his elder brother John. Despite his parents' opposition, Maury did follow in his brother's footsteps and entered the navy.

While a midshipman, Maury received an assignment as "sailing master" of the ship *Falmouth*, which led to his research on navigation. He was responsible for ship maintenance, supplies, and navigation. In preparation for this assignment, Maury tried to locate previously compiled data for assistance. Deciding to compile the data himself, Maury kept detailed notes on tides, currents, wind direction, latitude, and longitude, among other data, and reviewed existent nautical charts for inaccuracies.

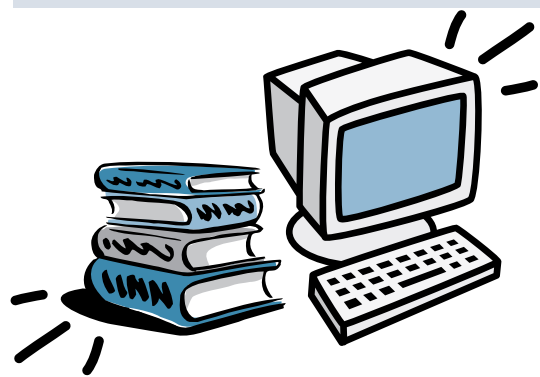
In 1836, after his promotion to lieutenant, Maury was selected to participate in the navy's first scientific expedition of the South Seas, a prospect the navy had been considering since 1828. Charles Wilkes, who had been head of the navy's Depot of Charts and Instruments, was selected to lead the expedition. Maury declined to participate as a result of differences with Wilkes. Controversy arose over Wilkes' leading the expedition, and Maury, using the names "Harry Bluff" and "Will Watch," submitted editorials to the *Richmond Whig and Public Advertiser* criticizing the failings of bureaucracy and demanding changes in the navy. Although a relatively inexperienced leader, Wilkes led the four-year expedition, which began in 1838. He was credited with sighting Antarctica, although whalers had been aware of it for centuries.

After a carriage accident in 1839, Maury was physically unable to endure sailing, thus ending his career at sea. He then returned to writing a series of editorials under the pseudonym "Harry Bluff" entitled "Scraps from the Lucky Bag" in the *Southern Literary Messenger*.

Later, in 1842, when Maury became the head of the Depot of Charts and Instruments, he started compiling data from sailors' logs and requesting additional data from sailors in exchange for his charts. From his research, Maury made six series of charts, all of which helped sailors reduce travel time and avoid potential hazards, rendering the charts invaluable.

The series includes track charts, trade winds, pilot charts, thermal sheets, storm and rain charts, and whale charts. Track and trade wind charts indicate the main trade routes ships followed, while the pilot charts illustrate winds, currents, and calms. These charts indicated winds for every month so that sailors could plot the best route. The first pilot charts show the North Atlantic and Brazil coast, and were completed in 1849; by 1854 each was in its third edition. The storm and rain charts provide information on where and when tropical depressions, cyclonic storms, and hurricanes occurred most frequently. The whale charts indicate whale sightings, breeding habits, and migratory patterns, all of which had previously been a mystery to whalers. Maury's charts also show hazards, such as rocks, reefs, and shoals.

As the use of steamships became more prevalent after the Civil ...see **Maury**, pg. 6



Did you know...?

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers was introduced in March 2007 on the Library of Congress Web site (www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/) to provide access to digital images of America's historic newspapers. Chronicling America is made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Newspaper Program and was developed in part by the Library of Virginia's Newspaper Project. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and its immediate predecessors, the *Times* and the *Richmond Dispatch*, are included

in the first group of newspapers to be displayed, and a complete run from 1900 through 1910 can now be searched and displayed. This significant resource for information about Richmond and the state of Virginia is available online for researchers everywhere.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Pioneers of the Virginia Bluegrass (Kegley Books, 2007)

In 2007 Mary B. Kegley, a well-known southwest Virginia genealogist and historian, published a new, revised edition of *Pioneers of the Virginia Bluegrass*, originally published by George B. Gose in 1964.

Gose provided detailed genealogies of many families of Southwest Virginia, especially in Wythe, Tazewell, and Bland counties. His primary focus included the families of Gose, Broadbent, Brown, Burke, Catron, Crabtree, Crute, Foglesong, Fox, Greever, Groseclose, Huddle, Jones, Legrand, Litz, Mahood, Michaux, Peery, Repass, Rhudy, Rosenbaum, Sluss, Spangler, Spraker, Thompson, and Wilson. The original book included genealogical information from court, family, church, and cemetery records. His references to cemeteries where inscriptions are now difficult if not impossible to read (45 years after original publication) reveal the value of this work.

Kegley has augmented the original work with related family sketches from her five-volume series *Early Adventurers on the Western Waters: The New River of Virginia in Pioneer Days, 1745–1820*. In addition, she has added corrections and additions that have been brought to her attention over the years and supplied a short bibliography that will be invaluable to researchers of families in the area. Gose originally provided 25 separate family indexes plus a general index that contained some but not all of the names in the family indexes. Kegley has consolidated these into one, including the maiden and

married names of women, when given, as well as geographic place names. The result is a more extensive southwest Virginia genealogical resource, made even more useful by careful additions and practical revisions

Encyclopedia of American Race Riots (Greenwood Press, 2007)

"Never has our city or our country witnessed such a deplorable scene as prevailed in New York during the day and night of Monday last, when a mob of vast proportions set all law and authority at defiance and ruled the city, committing the most extensive and disgraceful assaults upon life and property. The outbreak took the form of opposition to the draft, but it ended in pillage, and arson, and murder on a large scale."

—*New York Observer and Chronicle*,
July 16, 1863

Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, violence between races in the United States often erupted as a collective enterprise. In the *Encyclopedia of American Race Riots*, editors Walter Rucker and James Nathaniel Upton, both associate professors at Ohio State University, focus on race riots between blacks and whites beginning with the New York City Draft Riots of 1863. Intended as an introduction to the history of race riots, the work emphasizes violent 20th-century racial disturbances. However, the content of the *Encyclopedia of American Race Riots* is broader than its title implies. The two volumes cover many other topics related to the history of black and white relations. Broad themes

such as desegregation are summarized. Within the volumes, one can encounter such seemingly unrelated topics as Marcus Garvey, W. E. B. Du Bois, Spike Lee's film *Do the Right Thing*, the Chicago Commission on Race Relations of 1919, and "white flight."

Eighty scholars have contributed more than 200 entries here, varying in length between 500 and 1000 words. A list of "further readings" follows each entry. Within the first volume is a list of entries, a list of 23 primary documents, a guide to related topics, a 43-page foreword by Missouri State University distinguished professor Dominic J. Capeci Jr., a preface, an introduction, and a chronology of American race riots and racial violence. Volume two concludes with 131 pages of primary documents, a select historiography of race riots, a bibliography, an index to both volumes, and the names and affiliations of the contributors.

The chronology of American race riots and racial violence section is particularly useful to anyone interested in the subject. Here one can quickly find the dates and locations of eight riots in the 19th century, and more than 40 in the 20th century. The guide to related topics gathers specific references under 22 broad headings such as "civil rights movement," "films," and "race riots." With this organization, the section works as a convenient method of finding the names of more than 70 race riots.

The *Encyclopedia of American Race Riots* furthers the study of African American history. One prominent race riot—the Los Angeles Zoot-Suit Riot of 1943—was barely mentioned, however. For more information

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA HIGHLIGHTS NOTABLE AFRICAN AMERICANS IN VIRGINIA HISTORY

A Norfolk teacher who fought for equal pay for black and white teachers and a nationally known tap dancer who was born and raised in Richmond are among the eight notable African Americans in Virginia featured on the Library of Virginia's Web site under "spotlight" on the main page: (www.lva.virginia.gov).

This marks the second year that the Library has observed African American History Month by providing information about remarkable individuals who are included in the Library's multivolume reference work the *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*.

about this riot involving Mexican Americans, sailors, soldiers, and black civilians, it is necessary to consult other resources, such as *Violence in America: An Encyclopedia*. Nonetheless, with its extensive narratives of race riots and many other topics, the *Encyclopedia of American Race Riots* is an authoritative resource about an important historical subject. This encyclopedia is a welcome addition to the Library of Virginia's reference collection.

African American National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2008)

February has traditionally been the month to celebrate the accomplishments of African Americans. A new eight-volume reference work released this February, the *African American National Biography*, continues this tradition by not only focusing on the famous, the leaders, the achievers, and the well known, but also by narrating the lives of many lesser known, obscure, and even infamous people who nonetheless contributed to the fabric of African American history. This new scholarly work unveils the stories of 4,080 black lives, past and present, living and dead. It is the most significant collection of African American biographies in print.

The set is edited by Henry Louis Gates Jr., director of the Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University, and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, also a professor at Harvard. They also edited the one-volume *African American Lives*, published by Oxford University Press in 2004 (also owned by the Library of Virginia) that was a preview of this eight-volume work. *AANB* covers a period of five centuries,

The educational resources and biographies provide glimpses into the lives and life works of these important Virginians. Each biography is supported by lesson plans based on the Virginia Standards of Learning and additional resources. Famous names and everyday heroes grace this list, each contributing to the rich fabric of Virginia history. This year's honorees include:

- Blind Billy (ca. 1805–1855), Lynchburg, a military musician
- Fields Cook (ca. 1817–1897), Richmond

from 16th-century explorer Esteban's arrival in Florida to today's notable citizens. It is the work of one thousand distinguished scholars who highlight the accomplishments of individuals from all walks of life. Each entry is signed by its author and is a well-researched, authoritative biography of between one thousand and three thousand words. In most cases, a bibliography for further reading is provided. In addition, one thousand images and multiple indexes make this work user-friendly. An index of entries by birthplace—shown not only by state, but subdivided by county and city—allows users to identify all of Virginia's African Americans listed in this work. The last index lists African American prizewinners, medalists, members of Congress, and judges. Of special interest to Virginians is the first listing, Aaron, born about 1811. The life of this Virginia slave, who became an antislavery lecturer, is revealed through his 48-page memoir.

Gates describes the *AANB*'s creation as a sort of "rescue and recovery project," unearthing innumerable obscure lives that surfaced through the work, never to be lost again. It is the story of countless people who otherwise would have remained forgotten in the dust of archives and libraries. The Library of Virginia is the first in Richmond to acquire this work. We welcome this new biographical set in our reference collection and encourage you to stop by and make use of its wide scope and breadth.

and Alexandria, Baptist minister and Republican Party leader

- John Wesley Cromwell (1846–1927), Alexandria and Portsmouth, educator and journalist
- Janie Porter Barrett (1865–1948), Hampton and Hanover County, educator
- Edna Meade Colson (1888–1985), Petersburg, educator
- Percy Corbin (1888–1952), Pulaski County, civil rights advocate
- Aline Black (1906–1974), Norfolk, teacher who was a principal in a case to equalize the salaries of black and white teachers
- Pleasants "Snowball" Crump (1905–1995), Richmond, dancer

The *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* is an ambitious project of the Library of Virginia to document the contributions of Virginians to four centuries of local, state, and national history. The Library established the *DVB* project to fill the gap in the historical literature as well as foster greater awareness of Virginia's past. The criteria for inclusion in the *DVB* include impact on the community, state, or national scene and extraordinary recognition from contemporaries or from posterity.

The eight individuals selected for the "2008 Notable African Americans in Virginia History" are drawn from the exhaustive research done for the *DVB*. Each February this ongoing program will honor distinguished Virginians for their contributions to history.

Thursday, April 17, 2008

CREATING A GREEN FUTURE IN THE COMMONWEALTH: A LECTURE BY KARL BREN

FREE EVENT at the Library of Virginia

Location: Lecture Hall I Time: 12–1 PM



Karl Bren, president of GreenVisions Consulting and executive director of EarthCraft Virginia, a non-profit that provides green building certification for single and multifamily

homes, will discuss the growing move toward environmentally responsible building and sustainable development. This talk is offered in conjunction with the Library's exhibition *Never Built Virginia*.

Clarion University Presents “From Center City to the Exurbs: Public Library Realities”

Speakers from throughout the United States will make presentations at a library conference sponsored by the Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship at Clarion University, April 30–May 2, 2008, in Columbus, Ohio.

The conference theme, “From the Center City to the Exurbs: [Trends in] Public Library Realities,” will explore trends affecting public libraries from the smallest to those serving populations of 500,000. Speakers include Denise M. Davis, director of research, American Library Association;

George Needham, vice president, member services, OCLC; Lesley Broughton, state librarian, Wyoming State Library; and George Smith, director for state programs, Institute for Museum and Library Services.

The registration fee for the conference is \$75 and includes three breakfasts, four breaks, and one reception. For registration information contact the Office of Continuing Education at Clarion University at 814-393-2227 or 1-800-672-7171; or by e-mail at shbauer@clarion.edu. Information is also

available about the rooms reserved for the conference. The registration deadline is April 25.

The Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship at Clarion University was established in the department of library science in 1978. It is a research, publishing, consultative, and continuing education facility. Additionally, the CSRL is concerned with the development and use of information technology in rural communities. Its mission is to extend knowledge relative to the nature and role of rural and small libraries on a global basis.

Maury... War, reliance on Maury's charts decreased because steamships operated on their own power and were no longer at the mercy of winds and currents. Steamships could also power through a strong gale or current. However, many sailors still kept Maury's charts on board for various purposes, such as to help them avoid hurricanes.

Although sailors have been drafting and publishing nautical charts and guides for centuries, Maury's work is significant because he compiled data illustrating pathways throughout the seas for all seasons. From indicating weather conditions to marking merchant ships' paths, his charts were intended to assist sailors everywhere. In addition to the charts, Maury published several influential texts, including the popular *The Physical Geography of the Sea*, published in eight editions. Maury's publications include the textbook *A New Theoretical and Practical Treatise on Navigation*, which received a favorable review by Edgar Allan Poe in the *Southern Literary Messenger*; *Explanations and Sailing Directions to Accompany the Wind and Current Charts*, pervasively known as “Sailing Directions”; and *Navigation*, the primary text used by the U.S. Navy. In *Lanes for the Steamers Crossing the Atlantic*, he also established routes, a kind of highway system used by steamships and sailing ships to avoid collisions, commonly referred to as “Maury's Lanes.”

Maury's innovation and scholarship crossed international boundaries and led to recognition and honors from other countries. Because of his reputation as an expert on navigation and extensive knowledge of the seas, including the ocean floor, Maury was consulted in various matters. For example, Cyrus W. Field, a retired American paper manufacturer, consulted Maury when he wanted to lay a transatlantic telegraph cable. In this capacity, Maury participated in the laying of

CHANCERY RECORDS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Library of Virginia is pleased to announce that digital imaging of the King and Queen and New Kent County chancery causes is now complete. The images have been added to the Library's online Chancery Records Index and are now available for searching at www.lva.virginia.gov/whatwehave/local/chancery/index.htm. The King and Queen County chancery collection covers the years 1818 through 1913 (bulk 1840 through 1913). New Kent's chancery causes include records from 1848 through 1956. These counties join the growing list of localities whose chancery causes have been preserved and made available through the Library's innovative Circuit Court Records Preservation Program, which seeks to preserve the historic records of Virginia's circuit courts. Please see the Chancery Records Index for the list of available locality chancery collections.

Chancery causes are cases that are decided on the basis of equity and fairness as opposed to the strictly formulated rules of common law cases. Chancery cases are especially useful when researching local history, genealogical information, and land or estate divisions. They are a valuable source of local, state, social, and legal history and serve as a primary source for understanding a locality's history. Chancery causes often contain correspondence; property lists, including slaves; lists of heirs; and vital statistics, along with many other records. Some of the more common types of chancery causes involve divisions of the estate of a person who died intestate (without a will); divorces; settlements of dissolved business partnerships; and resolutions of land disputes.

—submitted by Vincent T. Brooks, Archival and Records Management Services

the cable between Newfoundland and Ireland in 1858, thus establishing telegraph communication between the U.S. and Europe.

Maury resigned from the navy to serve the Confederacy when Virginia seceded from the Union. Retaining his rank as commander, he was assigned the position of Chief of Sea Coast, River and Harbor Defenses, in addition to the role of European agent for the Confederacy due to his celebrity in Europe, where he acquired ships and supplies for the war. Maury also perfected torpedoes to destroy Northern ships during the war. Confederate raiders used his whale charts to locate and seize Union whaling ships. After the war, Maury received several prestigious job offers and eventually accepted a teaching position at Virginia Military Institute as chair of physics, where he could continue his lifelong contributions to geography and the

newly developing science of oceanography.

Maury died on February 1, 1873, and was buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia, between U.S. Presidents James Monroe and John Tyler. Maury is said to have received his inspiration from two Bible verses: Psalm 8:8: “the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the sea”; and Ecclesiastes 1:6: “The wind blows to the south, and goes round to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.” Sculptor Frederick William Sievers memorialized Maury on Richmond's Monument Avenue with a work inscribed “Maury: Pathfinder of the Seas,” which was dedicated on November 11, 1929.

—submitted by Leah Thomas, Collection Management Services

Jones Memorial Library in Lynchburg to Celebrate 100th Anniversary

Jones Memorial Library, one of the oldest public libraries in Virginia, opened on June 3, 1908. The library had been the dream of George Morgan Jones, a Lynchburg philanthropist and industrialist. The dream was not realized in his lifetime. As a memorial to her husband, Mary Frances Watts Jones financed the construction and equipping of the library. In her will, Mrs. Jones provided for the continued support of the library through the establishment of an endowment. To this day, the library receives no public monies and its operating budget is funded primarily from this endowment and with donations. The library is a privately supported public research facility specializing in genealogy and local history.

In 1966, when the Lynchburg Public Library opened, Jones Memorial Library began to concentrate its collection efforts in its genealogical and historical holdings. As a result, the library's collection in this area of

research is one of the largest in the state.

In order to preserve its valuable collection, the library moved in July 1987 to its present location. The new facility offers modern temperature and humidity controls for the protection of the collection, as well as comfortable research facilities.

For 100 years, the library has served patrons from all over the United States and some from foreign countries. As part of the centennial celebration, the John D. Owen Jr. Lynchburg History Lecture Series will feature two special lectures and events.

These include an April 9, 2008, lecture by Barbara Rothermel, director of the Daura Gallery at Lynchburg College, on the topic of Queena Stovall, a nationally known folk art or naïve style painter born in 1887 in rural Amherst County. Stovall began painting at the age of 62, when she was already a great-grandmother. Described as Southern memory paintings, her scenes of country life in

central Virginia created a record that words cannot adequately describe. At the time of her death in 1980, she had completed 47 paintings, some of which hang in significant galleries in the United States.

Following the lecture, a number of paintings of Lynchburg scenes by some of the area's best-known artists will be unveiled. These have been donated to the library in honor of its 100th birthday.

On May 14, 2008, Phillip Wayne Rhodes, director of Jones Memorial Library, will speak on the history of the library. Refreshments, including an anniversary cake, will follow the lecture.

The lectures will be given in the reading room of the Jones Memorial Library, 2311 Memorial Avenue, from 5 to 6 PM. For more information, please call 434-846-0501.

—submitted by Lewis Averett, Public Services Coordinator, Jones Memorial Library

Tactile... Wiedel became a member of the faculty at the University of Maryland while still a graduate student. He was an assistant professor from 1961 to 1969, an associate professor from 1969 to 1989, and became a full professor in 1989, the first to achieve that status in over 20 years at the university.

His interest in mapping for the blind developed early in his career and quickly became his focus. Early in the 1960s he was shown a map created for the blind at the University of Washington's National Science Foundation and did not believe that it would be adequate for the use of visually impaired people. Wiedel believed that sighted people look at a picture by seeing the whole of it first and then the details, whereas the blind needed the details to make a whole picture in their mind. He decided that he could make a better map for the visually handicapped. To understand how people perceived images, he studied perceptual psychology at the University of Nottingham in England while on a research sabbatical in 1968 to 1969.

His first tactile map was created around 1962 at a time when almost no professional cartographers were working in the field of tactile maps. Of three processes he invented, he chose what he felt to be the superior method for most of the maps. Wiedel produced the maps by creating a mirror image of the visual map and projecting or copying it to an aluminum sheet, which he then hand embossed with various tools, creating a negative image on the die. A sheet of plastic with the printed map was placed over the die and formed to it by heat from a thermoform machine. Multiple copies were pressed this way and, with the visual map overlaying the tactile impressions, a sighted companion of a blind person could also read the map and assist in its use.

He did not patent any of his developments, wanting them to be open for others to work with and develop, but did publish in order to both inform and prevent others from obtaining a patent on his processes. Wiedel conducted workshops around the world to train others in the field to create these maps and mentored two graduate students working in tactile maps. Wiedel served in several notable positions in professional associations, including director in 1991 and then secretary of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping from 1992 to 1993. He was a member of the United States Delegation to the International Cartographic Association and was the winning designer of the flag for the group. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of the International Cartographic Association in 1995. Wiedel was showered with praise and awards from the visually impaired community and professional associations. Among his many awards are ones from the National Endowment of the Arts and the U.S. Department of Transportation for design excellence in 1981, a University of Maryland President's Commission on Disability Issues faculty award in 1989, the Dr. J. T. Schnebly Award for dedicated service to the visually handicapped in 1985, and the Robert S. Bray Award of the American Council of the Blind in 1994.

Retired since 1993, Wiedel resides in Louisa, Virginia, with his wife, Alona, and remains very humble about his achievements. When asked about awards and professional recognition, he said, "I have a few things on the wall." In fact, a room in the house is covered with plaques and certificates.

—submitted by Lauren Wanveer,
Library of Virginia intern

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Hayes to Give Eighth Governor Henry Lecture



Kevin J. Hayes, professor of English at the University of Central Oklahoma, will present the Eighth Annual Governor Henry Lecture at Charlotte Court House on Saturday, May 3, and again at the Library of Virginia on Monday, May 5, 2008. Hayes's lecture will summarize his forthcoming book *The Mind of a Patriot: Patrick Henry and the World of Ideas*. Evidence of Henry's extensive reading affords a better understanding of his views and influence during the American Revolution than do the accusations by

some of his politic rivals. Hayes is among the nation's preeminent experts on reading and libraries in early American culture. A magna cum laude graduate of the University of Toledo, he holds a doctorate in English from the University of Delaware.

Hayes's many other published works include *A Colonial Woman's Bookshelf*; books about Captain John Smith, Edgar Allan Poe, Herman Melville, Stephen Crane, and the libraries of William Byrd of Westover and Benjamin Franklin; and studies of filmmakers Martin Scorsese and Charlie Chaplin.

The annual Governor Henry Lecture, jointly sponsored by the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation and the Library of Virginia, is open to the public at no charge. To reserve a space for the May 5 program at 5:30 PM at the Library of Virginia, please call 804-692-3813.

Third Virginia Forum to Be Held at UMW in April

The third Virginia Forum will convene at the University of Mary Washington, in Fredericksburg, Virginia, on April 11–12, 2008. The Virginia Forum offers an opportunity for exchanges of ideas among scholars, teachers, archivists, librarians, museum curators, and all those interested in Virginia history, environment, and culture. Registration and hotel information can be found at <http://virginiaforum.org>. Please contact Jeffrey McClurken, local arrangements chair, at jmccclurk@umw.edu with any questions.



Patsy Pettus reads about Frank Lloyd Wright's design for a Rosenwald school in Hampton, Virginia. In a note penciled along the bottom of the drawing, Wright noted that the design was rejected because it was "not Colonial." The design is among more than 40 featured in the Library's *Never Built Virginia* exhibition, which runs through May 31, 2008.

Through the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, more than 5,300 schools, shop buildings and teachers houses were built by, and for, African Americans across the South and Southwest, including more than 350 in Virginia.



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